

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 161510
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 SP-02 INR-10 L-03 /047 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:ABERGSTROM:LLC

APPROVED BY NEA:AFN:JBISHOP

-----036493 240541Z/11

R 240137Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 161510

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR LY US

SUBJECT: U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS: EMERGING DIALOGUE

REFS: (A) STATE 122753, (B) STATE 110042, (C) STATE 144691

1. LIBYAN CHARGE AL MADFA'I DEPARTS WASHINGTON FOR TRIPOLI CONSULTATIONS JUNE 22 AND EXPECTS TO CALL ON YOU TO CONTINUE EXPLORATORY DIALOGUE ON U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS. MADFA'I EXPECTS TO SEE QADHAFI AS WELL AS TURAYKI. STATUS OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH MADFA'I AND KHIKYA FOLLOWS:

A. IN RESPONSE UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S OFFER TO SEE KHIKYA TO RECEIVE MESSAGE FOR SECRETARY OR PRESIDENT, KHIKYA SAID QADHAFI'S LETTER NOW PROBABLY OUT OF DATE, AND THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT TRIPOLI ON THE MATTER. WE TOLD KHIKYA (THROUGH MADFA'I) THAT WE WERE IN NO WAY SOLICITING A LETTER BUT MERELY RESPONDING TO HIS COMPLAINT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 161510

THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO DELIVER THIS MESSAGE.

B. OUR CONVERSATIONS ON U.S. POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST WERE BASED ON SAUNDERS' JUNE 12 STATEMENT TO HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE

ON EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST (CARRIED WIRELESS FILE). MADFA'I HAS A COPY.

C. AT AL MADFA'S REQUEST, WE GAVE HIM FOLLOWING LETTER FROM BISHOP SUMMARIZING OUR CONVERSATIONS: QUOTE:

DEAR MR. AL MADFA:

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REQUEST, I AM PLEASED TO SEND YOU THIS OUTLINE OF THE U.S.GOVERNMENT POSITIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TO YOU IN YOUR RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM, MR. BERGSTROM, AND MYSELF.

THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO ENJOY NORMAL RELATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBYA. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOES NOT EXPECT OTHER NATIONS TO AGREE WITH ALL AMERICAN POLICIES AS A CONDITION FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOOD RELATIONS. IN FACT, THE UNITED STATES HAS IMPORTANT TIES WITH NATIONS WITH WHICH THERE IS DISAGREEMENT ON SIGNIFICANT POLICY ISSUES.

FROM OUR STANDPOINT, THE PRINCIPAL IMPEDIMENTS TO NORMALIZATION OF LIBYAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS ARE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND ITS INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF NEIGHBORING STATES. WE HAVE CITED SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF THE TYPE OF ACTIONS TO WHICH WE REFER, HOPEFULLY MAKING IT CLEAR THAT OUR OBJECTION IS NOT TO LIBYA'S SUPPORT FOR THE PALESTINIANS PER SE, BUT TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 161510

THE EXTENT TO WHICH THIS SUPPORT TAKES THE FORM OF LIBYAN KNOWING INVOLVEMENT WITH THOSE AMONG THE PALESTINIANS WHO ENGAGE IN ACTS OF TERRORISM, SUCH AS HIJACKINGS, THE TAKING OF HOSTAGES AND THE KILLING OF INNOCENT CIVILIANS. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALSO RECOGNIZES THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT PERCEIVES THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION IN TERMS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE MOTIVATING AMERICAN POLICY.

WHILE DISAGREEMENT ON THOSE TWO ISSUES BARS FULL NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS, WE STILL BELIEVE THERE ARE AREAS IN WHICH MUTUAL COOPERATION IS POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE. WE ARE PLEASED YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS CHOSEN TO EDUCATE MANY YOUNG LIBYANS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU IN FACILITATING THEIR ENTRY TO THIS COUNTRY AND IN RESOLVING SUCH PROBLEMS AS MAY ARISE DURING THEIR STUDIES HERE.

WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE FOR BOTH COUNTRIES OF OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONS. DUE TO THE DIFFERENCES TO WHICH I ALREADY REFERRED, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO AUTHORIZE THE

SHIPMENT OF ARMS, OR OF NOMINALLY CIVILIAN EQUIPMENT WITH

A SIGNIFICANT CAPACITY FOR MILITARY USE. BUT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PUTS NO OBSTACLE IN THE WAY OF OTHER DEALINGS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT. IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, WE BELIEVE THERE IS SIGNIFICANT POTENTIAL FOR AMERICAN TECHNOLOGY TO HELP INCREASE DOMESTIC FOOD PRODUCTION.

IN CONCLUSION, I WISH TO SAY THAT WE HAVE WELCOMED THE DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS WHICH YOU HAVE MANIFESTED SINCE YOUR ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON. WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU IN EFFORTS TO CLARIFY ANY MISUNDERSTANDINGS WHICH MAY EXIST BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS AND TO TRY TO RESOLVE THE DISAGREEMENTS WHICH EXIST. SINCERELY,
JAMES K. BISHOP. UNQUOTE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 161510

2. WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR ANY BASIC IMPROVEMENT IN OUR RELATIONS WITH QADHAFI REGIME OR IN MODERATING ITS DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES. HOWEVER, WE HAVE

SET FORTH FRANKLY OUR POSITIONS ON THE PROBLEMS IN U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS IN RESPONSE TO AL MADFA'S FREQUENTLY STATED DESIRE TO IMPROVE BILATERAL TIES.

VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE161510
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: ABERGSTROM:LLC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780263-0523
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780623/aaaaatqf.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a4351782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: 78 STATE 122753, 78 STATE 110042, 78 STATE 144691
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2218192
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS: EMERGING DIALOGUE
TAGS: PFOR, PEPR, LY, US
To: TRIPOLI
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a4351782-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014